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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/990,216

11/21/2001

Elmo Marcus Attila Diederiks

NL 000637

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04/28/2006

PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS

P.O. BOX 3001

BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510

EXAMINER

CHAI, LONGBIT

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2131

DATE MAILED: 04/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/990,216

Applicant(s)

DIEDERIKS ET AL

Examiner

Longbit Chai

Art Unit

2131

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 April 2006.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 4-7 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 4-7 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 November 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to the subject matter of the instant claims have been fully considered but are not persuasive.
2. As per claim 1, Applicant asserts that Truchsess does not teach "the output means of the storage medium on which the analog audio and/or video output signals are made available to the reproducing apparatus, are only connected to the conversion unit"; especially Truchsess does not teach such access to semiconductor memory is not available in the integrated Voice IC. Examiner respectfully disagrees because (a) Figure 5 & 6 consistently shows the only external interface from the storage medium (i.e. Voice IC) to a reproducing apparatuses is connected to the amplifier where the characteristics of the signal must be in analog form and as such the only external output must be coming from the DAC (Digital Analog Converter) (b) the evolution of interfaces from Figure 4 to Figure 5 / 6 clearly shows the interconnection between the semiconductor memory and the DAC converter is securely embedded inside the integrated Voice IC as opposed to Figure 4 being passed externally and therefore Truchsess discloses while the integrated Voice IC contains multiple circuits, the interconnection between the semiconductor memory and DAC is not required to be externally traversed, as taught by Truchsess, for reproduction by a reproducing apparatuses to meet the claim language.

3. Claims 1 – 7 were originally received for consideration and claim 3 is cancelled.
Therefore, presently pending claims are 1, 2 and 4 – 7.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 102 that forms the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Truchsess (U.S. Patent 5734726).

As per claim 1, Truchsess teaches a storage medium for providing information relating to stored audio and/or video data, the storage medium including a semiconductor memory for having stored therein the audio and/or video data in digital form (Truchsess: Column 3 Line 52 – 53), characterized in that the storage medium includes:

a conversion unit coupled to output lines of the semiconductor memory for converting the stored digital audio and/or video data into analog audio and/or video output signals (Truchsess: Figure 4 – 6 and Column 5 Line 31 – 38), and

output means coupled to said conversion unit for providing said analog audio and/or video output signals suitable for reproduction by a reproducing apparatuses,

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wherein the output means of the storage medium, on which the analog audio and/or video output signals are made available to the reproducing apparatus, are only connected to the conversion unit (Truchsess: Column 3 Line 52 – 5 and Column 5 Line 31 – 38), whereby only the analog audio and/or video output signals from the conversion unit are accessible externally from the storage medium (Truchsess: Figure 4 – 6 and Column 5 Line 31 – 38), while the audio and/or video data stored in the semiconductor memory is not accessible in digital form externally from said storage medium (Truchsess: Figure 4 – 6 and Column 5 Line 31 – 38: (a) Figure 5 & 6 consistently shows the only external interface from the storage medium (i.e. Voice IC) to a reproducing apparatuses is connected to the amplifier where the characteristics of the signal must be in analog form and as such the only external output must be coming from the DAC (Digital Analog Converter) (b) the evolution of interfaces from Figure 4 to Figure 5 / 6 clearly shows the interconnection between the semiconductor memory and the DAC converter is securely embedded inside the integrated Voice IC as opposed to Figure 4 being passed externally and therefore Truchsess discloses while the integrated Voice IC contains multiple circuits, the interconnection between the semiconductor memory and DAC is not required to be externally traversed, as taught by Truchsess, for reproduction by a reproducing apparatuses to meet the claim language).

As per claim 2, Truchsess teaches characterized in that the conversion unit includes a decoder for decoding compressed and/or encoded data (Truchsess: Column 1 Line 45 – 47).

As per claim 4, Truchsess teaches characterized in that the semiconductor memory and the conversion unit are integrated in a single microchip (Truchsess: Figure 5 & Column 5 Line 34 – 37).

As per claim 5, Truchsess teaches characterized in that storage medium takes the form of a chip card (Truchsess: Figure 5: “voice IC” is a chip card).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Truchsess (U.S. Patent 5734726), in view of Micic (U.S. Patent 4905289).

As per claim 6, Truchsess does not disclose expressly characterized in that the semiconductor memory (3) is a read-only memory.

Micic teaches characterized in that the semiconductor memory is a read-only memory (Micic: see for example, Abstract Line 1 – 2).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Micic within the system of Truchsess because Micic teaches a simplified apparatus for digital storage of audio signals (Micic: see for example, Column 1 Line 54 – 55).

6. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Truchsess (U.S. Patent 5734726), in view of Scibora (U.S. Patent 6122230).

As per claim 7, Truchsess does not disclose expressly characterized in that the conversion unit is configurable subject to authorization control and/or irreversibly.

Scibora teaches characterized in that the conversion unit is configurable subject to authorization control and/or irreversibly (Scibora: see for example, Column 5 Line 48 – 63).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Scibora within the system of Truchsess because Scibora teaches an enhanced security mechanism to prevent unauthorized use of the decoding software program associated with the conversion unit (Scibora: see Column 5 Line 55 – 56).

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Longbit Chai whose telephone number is 571-272-3788. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:00pm.

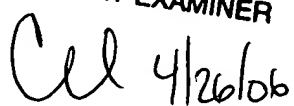
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz R. Sheikh can be reached on 571-272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


LBC

Longbit Chai
Examiner
Art Unit 2131

CHRISTOPHER REVAK
PRIMARY EXAMINER
 4/26/06